NEW-ENGLAND FARMER.

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NOTICES OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS.

The American Farmer, Baltimore. This is the oldest of the agricultural periodicals, being a year or two the senior of the *New England Farmer*. It was established by that zealous and devoted friend of the agricultural interest, the Hon. John S. Skinner, the present Assistant Postmaster General. It retains in its age the vigor, spirit and usefulness which distinguished its youth, and which have ever characterized its existence.

The Cultivator, at Albany, established by the venerated Judge Buel, is so well known, that it may be superfluous to say anything in its praise. Its principal editor, since the demise of Mr Gaylord, (Sanford Howard, Esq.,) is a thorough-bred farmer and sound writer, and well calculated to sustain the high reputation of the paper.

The American Agriculturist, at New York city, ranks among the most valuable of the agricultural journals of the country. It is edited by A. B. Allen, Esq., an experienced farmer (we believe,) and a good writer, *we know*. The contributions of Messrs. R. L. and L. F. Allen to this journal, constitute no small portion of its value. The former of these gentlemen has an elegance of style and a command of choice language which are really enviable. Of the history and characteristics of our breeds of horses, and other stock, he talks "like a book."

The Maine Farmer, at Augusta—(brother Holmes' paper,—every body knows Br. Holmes—or *ought* to)—is everything that is desirable in a paper designed to instruct the farmer, interest the mechanic, please the ladies, and gratify *all*. "*Esto perpetua*," Doctor.

The Maine Cultivator, at Hallowell. *Multum in Parvo* would be an appropriate motto for this well conducted journal,—for, considering its size, (which, by the way, is far from diminutive,) it contains a greater variety of matter than any other of our exchanges. It gives good advice to farmers, and every body else—and has "a spice of mirth, too."

The Farmer's Monthly Visitor, at Concord, N. H., conducted by Hon. Isaac Hill. This paper contains much agricultural and miscellaneous matter of an instructive character. Its editor's views upon matters pertaining to rural pursuits, are usually characterized by sound sense, and expressed in language easily understood.

The Connecticut Farmer's Gazette, at New Haven—A well conducted and valuable journal.

Other agricultural publications in the country are entitled to commendatory notice—such as the *Southern Cultivator*, (a gem of a paper)—the *Central New York Farmer*; (C. N. Bement, Esq., one of our best agricultural writers, is connected with this journal.) The *New Genesee Farmer*; (Dr. Lee, of Buffalo, a most instructive writer, is one of the editors of this well-known periodical.) The *Farmers' Cabinet*, at Philadelphia: (we spoke of this publication recently, as among the most valued of our exchanges, and our high estimation of its merits has undergone no abatement since.)

Out West there are some sterling agricultural journals—such as the *Prairie Farmer*, the *Tennessee Agriculturist*, the *Dollar Farmer*, the *Western Farmer and Gardener*, and the *Michigan Farmer*.

We may have inadvertently omitted to mention some journals devoted to agriculture, and there are a few which we do not receive. Our neighbors, the *Ploughman* and *Cultivator*, of this city, seem to be in a prosperous condition, and are, no doubt, highly valued by their readers. "May their shadow never be less."

Hovey's Magazine of Horticulture, published in this city, has high claims to the patronage of all engaged in fruit-raising, or interested in any other department of horticulture. It is published monthly, at $3 per annum.

The increase and prosperity of the agricultural journals within the last fifteen or twenty years, are perhaps, among the strongest evidences of an increased and increasing interest in the great subject of agricultural improvement; and if the establishment of twice the number of such journals now in the country, would be a demonstration of a corresponding increase in the interest felt in an improved husbandry, we could most cordially greet their institution and wish them the best success.

For the New England Farmer.

TEST FOR THE DETECTION OF ACIDS, &c.

MR BRECK,—*Dear Sir*,—The following information may be useful to some of your readers, who may want a convenient test for the presence of acids and alkalies.

The petals of the spider-wort, or *Tradescantia Virginica*, a common and bright blue flower, seen in many grain-fields and gardens, will furnish, on being bruised and squeezed in a piece of linen, a rich blue juice, which has the property of turning *red by acids*, and *green by alkalies*. The pulp, after being pressed, may be treated with a little alcohol, and will yield still more coloring matter. It may be mixed with alcohol and put up in corked phials for use; or unsized paper may be stained with it and dried, and will serve for testing solutions; or the alcoholic solution may be evaporated to the consistency of an extract, and be kept in that state until wanted for use, when by dissolving a little of it in water, or alcohol, it may be employed for testing any solution for acids and alkalies. It is very sensitive, and is as convenient for use as litmus or tincture of violets; while it possesses the advantage over red cabbage liquor, in not readily undergoing putrefaction and loss of color. I have occasionally used it for some years in chemical experiments.

The following is the botanical description of this plant, extracted from Eaton's Manual of Botany:

"*Tradescantia Virginica*—6th class, 1st order. Herbaceous perennial; erect, branching; leaves lanceolate, elongated, glabrous; flowers sessile; at length the peduncles become elongated; united, compact, pubescent."—*Florida Michaux.*

It is set down in Eaton's Manual as blooming in May, but it is still in flower (June 21st,) especially in shady places.

Yours, respectfully,

C. T. JACKSON.

Boston, June 21st, 1844.

ROOT CROPS DESTROYED BY GRUBS.

We find the grubs have made sad havoc with our young carrots. In a field on which we had spent $40 in labor and manure, we find every plant destroyed in about half the rows, and enough in the others to make seven-eighths of the whole crop destroyed. It is said "misery loves company," and if there is any consolation in this saying, we have a plenty of it, for we find we are not alone in our misfortune. Many of our friends have informed us that they have lost their beets as well as carrots. Well, it is of no use, they say, "to cry for spilt milk," so we had to make the best of it, and sow ruta bagas, after the field had been well scruffled over. It may now be too late to sow beets, and for carrots the time is passed.

The Grass Crop is generally very light. This we found to be the case on most of the farms which came under our observation on our way to Nantucket. The corn, too, looked very backward. The copious rain on Saturday before last, and the warm weather since, has very materially benefited the crops.—ED.

FALL FODDER FOR COWS.

Those individuals who keep but one or two cows, and have a plat of land, cannot devise a better method of furnishing them with a good bite of fodder occasionally in the fall, after the grass begins to decay, than by sowing some Indian corn. We have found the following plan a good one. Make drills, and fill in with manure: cover the manure over slightly, and put in Southern corn as you would peas. Keep it free from weeds, and in the fall you can cut an armful every night and morning for your "kine," which will be amply repaid to you in the extra quantity and quality of the milk.

We have sowed the Northern variety in this way, which does well, only it is earlier and will ear out: you can cut by the last of August and first of September, and feed it ears and all. Or if you keep a 'porker,' you can pull the ears for him and give the stalks to the cow. It would be a good plan to sow some of both kinds. The northern variety would do to cut first, and the southern will come on in succession. Some recommend sowing the corn broadcast. To succeed in this way, the land should be rich, and very clear from weeds, otherwise there will be a struggle, weeds *versus* corn, and ten chances to one if the weeds do not come off victorious.—*Maine Far.*

Bad Salt for Butter.—A great deal of good butter is spoiled by the salt; and many a good butter-maker has been blamed for the quality of the article when it was no fault of hers. Use only the finest and purest salt.—*Genesee Far.*

HAY MAKING.

We think it best to cut grass for hay, as near as possible to the time when it is in fullest bloom. Of course, if it is cut when most of it is in this state, some may be a little past, and some may not have quite reached full bloom. We know there has heretofore been some difference of opinion as to the stage grass should be in when it is cut, but we believe the experience of the best farmers is in agreement with the position above assumed. Those who are in the habit of curing herbs, cut them when in this stage, because it is known that they contain at that time the most of that peculiar principle from which they derive their efficacy and value. The saccharine or sugar principle, which constitutes one of the chief sources of nutriment in herbage, is found in the greatest quantity at the period of bloom. It may sometimes be expedient to cut grass before it has reached this state; particularly where it falls down, and is in danger of souring or rotting. When this happens, it should be cut, whatever state it may be in, because if it remains on the ground it will spoil, and the fermentation which takes place, will destroy the roots. Another great advantage in cutting grass before the seed forms, is, that the roots are not so much exhausted, and the after-growth is much more vigorous.

In some parts of the country, it is the practice to mow the grass and let it lie untouched on the ground through sunshine and shower, for several days, before it is stacked or put into the barn. It is quite common to begin Monday and continue to mow till Saturday, when with hand-rakes and horse-rakes, all turn in, take it up and stack it; and this is done too, without much regard to the state of the weather at the time it is raked, or to what it may have been after it was cut. The appearance of the animals which are fed on hay thus managed, is evidence enough of its worthlessness.

After grass is cut and partly dried, it ought never to be exposed to dew or wet. The best way is to spread out the mown grass evenly, as soon as the wet has dried off from the spaces between the swathes, and before the dew falls in the evening, rake it and put it in cock. Where the crop is heavy, considerable time will be gained in making by this plan. If it is only wilted when it is put in cock, it will in a short time undergo a *sweat*, which will much facilitate its making when it is again opened to the sun. Many good farmers believe that it will make more in two days, if it is kept in cock twelve hours, than it will make in three days without being put in cock.

In making clover hay, we are decidedly in favor of not exposing it much to the sun after it is first wilted. We speak from experience, having practiced various modes, and we are certain that it may be made with less labor, and that it is of far superior quality, when cured in cock, than in any other way. When the swathes are a little wilted, pitch them into cocks—laying it up in such a manner that it will stand the weather, which is easily done by the exercise of a little care. Examine the hay from day to day to see how the process of curing advances, and when it seems to be so well made that with what it will dry in handling, it will do to put into the barn or stack, turn over the cocks, loosen up the bottoms a little with a fork, and proceed to load it. Clover hay thus cured, is not likely to heat in the mow or stack, and from having every leaf and head saved, will be found to be very nutritious and much relished by all animals. In fact, we believe that clover hay, properly cured, will make more flesh, milk, or butter, than any other hay, pound for pound. The prejudice against clover, has arisen from the bad manner of curing it. Knocked about as it frequently is, wet and dried by turns, it loses its leaves and heads, and becomes little else than a mass of tasteless stems, which no animal will eat.—*Alb. Cult.*

WHAT STATE RAISES THE MOST?

We have had a curiosity to know which of the States raises the most agricultural produce according to its territory and population. This would be a difficult problem to solve, but Mr Ellsworth, in his report, gives us the aggregate of many articles, raised in the several States, without regard to size or population. We hope he will be enabled, at some time, to give us the correct proportional amount of each State, so that we may know where the agricultural banner should be hoisted.

The returns of agricultural statistics, as they now stand, must be very incorrect, and this arises from two causes: 1st. The difficulty of the farmers themselves knowing the exact amount which they do raise. There is so much carelessness among us all in this respect—so little calculation and so much *guessing* at results, that it is impossible to tell with certainty. 2d. Many who were inquired of by those who took the census, fearing that they were to be *taxed* for it, or that there were some sinister designs in the government in trying to find out facts of the kind, would not even *guess* at what they raised or produced, and the census-taker had to do his own *guessing*, and put down something or other. We know of some instances of the kind.

The following abstract has been made by some one from Mr Ellsworth's report, of some of the articles. It will be seen that no reference is made to size or population:

	Bushels.
Ohio raised the most wheat, viz:	18,786,705
New York the most barley,	1,802,982
New York the most oats,	24,907,553
Pennsylvania the most rye,	9,429,637
Pennsylvania the most buckwheat,	2,408,508
Tennessee the most Indian corn,	67,838,477
New York the most potatoes,	26,553,612

We must just say, in passing, that Maine raises the most potatoes in proportion to her population.

New York the most hay, 3.295,539 tons.

We will add here that we *guess* Vermont cuts the most hay in proportion to her size and population, and we *know* she clips the most wool.

	Lbs.
Virginia the most flax and hemp,	31,728
Georgia the most cotton,	185,758,128
S. Carolina the most rice,	66,892,807
Connecticut the most silk,	140,971
Louisiana the most sugar,	37,173,500

We wish Congress would be wise and liberal enough to order a census of industrial products to be taken every five years, and that the people would be honest enough to give in the actual amount of what they had produced, without any fear of assessors or taxes, direct or indirect.

A fair return of such statistics made into a table for reference, would be invaluable, and would do more to raise the credit of the United States abroad than any thing else. Besides, we should then know our real strength, and could show it with pride and satisfaction to the world, and with a much more powerful, and at the same time humane effect, than by the old method of exhibiting national power, viz: by powder and ball.—*Maine Far.*

From the Boston Cultivator.

MANURE.

Messrs. Editors—The success of farmers depends very much on a judicious collection of materials to enrich their fields. Every substance can in some way be applied to the increase of vegetation. But it is unwise for us to spend our strength in gathering the least efficacious materials and neglecting such as abound in the appropriate food of plants. We admit the position as correct, that on every farm there is a sufficiency of materials convertible into compost manure, yet through want of care and judgment in selection, much labor is bestowed to very little purpose. Our doctrines are either misunderstood or wondrously misapplied. Sand and gravel, which have been often and very properly recommended as useful dressing for cold, tenacious, and clayey soils, we see carted in large quantities on soils already sufficiently porous. This may not be absolute lost labor, because almost any mixture of soils will be attended with some benefit, but sand or gravel in loose and black soils, cannot in any quantities supply the place of stimulating manures. With stimulating manures, we should incorporate as much humus and geine as is practicable. This can be done to a great extent on any farm, by following the advice of one of your intelligent correspondents, in gathering the vegetable and earthy matters which accumulate on the borders of fields and against stone walls.

We were sorry to learn that the same correspondent, who thinks so highly of the value of accumulations in open fields, had experienced an unfavorable influence on the trees, when he went into the forest for similar materials. The opinion that we injure the forest when we take the surface soil for manure, strongly expressed by one of our best farmers, and endorsed by the editor of a respectable agricultural paper, will be likely to discourage very many from going to the forest for materials to increase the compost heap. If it be true that the forest is greatly injured by such an operation, it certainly ought to be discouraged. In our experience there has been no apparent injury, but rather benefit; therefore, we may properly ask a review of the opinions that have been expressed. No doubt the soil may be taken in the forest to a depth that will expose too many of the roots of the trees to the direct action of the sun, or deprive them of the required food. This would be closer paring than has ever been recommended. It may be that your correspondent's laborers extended the shovel somewhat deeper than he intended they should, or operated too near the bodies of the trees. Vegetable matter in an incipient state of decomposition, is what we recommend to be taken from the forest, and feel confident it can be done without the least injury to the trees, sometimes with manifest benefit.

Thirtyfive years ago, a collier, without our knowledge, went into a thrifty grove of young oaks, and cut a quantity of floats for his pit: on discovering what was done, a strong reprimand was given, and the supposed injury to so fine a growth of young wood, lamented. The collier, with a smile, replied that time would show benefit instead of injury. If the particular spot where he dug, can now be distinguished, it will be by the increased size and number of the trees. The operation of digging floats requires the removal of more soil than we should think of taking for the compost heap. A practical result first induced the recommendation to go into the forest for materials to make ma-

nure. Is there any sound theoretic maxim opposed to such a recommendation? The objection that the trees are robbed of their appropriate food, may at the first view seem well founded. But all its force is lost when we advert to the well known fact that every sort of vegetation left to decay in the place of its growth, will entirely run itself out. Cease laboring on the cultivated field, let whatever grows there remain, and ere long, weeds and grass will give place to bushes and briars, and these in their turn to forest trees.* Leave the forest to the course of nature, and when a growth of oak decays and falls down, pine or some other kind of trees will spring up. Does not this law in nature abundantly justify us in taking vegetable matters from the forest to enrich plants in our fields?

Pembroke, June 1st, 1844. M. A.

*If this is a fact, (which we do not deny,) we wish some one more enlightened than ourself, would inform us *how* the change is effected. Where does the *seed* of the forest trees come from?—N. E. Far.

From the New Genesee Farmer.

BEES AND BEE HIVES.

Messrs. Editors—The management of bees has excited the attention of the community more for a few years past, than for many years previous. In 1842, there were patented in the United States 13 different hives, all of the patentees claiming new and useful improvements not before introduced. Several of these hives have come under my own observation. One by James Jones, of Galoway, Saratoga Co., N. Y., called Jones' Multiplying and Equalizing Hive, is deserving particular notice. There appear to be two advantages in the use of this hive over many others: namely, multiplying of swarms and keeping out the moth or miller. As soon as the hive is filled with comb and bees, it may be divided by taking it apart and attaching two empty halves, giving the bees a chance to go on and fill it again, when it may be again divided, or at any time before the first of August. A hive half full of bees and comb at that time, will seldom want for honey before the next season. With this hive, there are no bees hanging on the outside of the hive, for two or three weeks before swarming, as is frequently the case with all of the swarming hives; and there is no danger of the bees leaving for the woods when swarming, which is no small item with many.

Any person acquainted with the management of bees can divide a swarm in two minutes, without the least danger of being stung. In the dividing of the swarm there is no comb left uncovered by the bees, as is the case in other hives, giving no chance for the miller to deposit its eggs on the uncovered comb. For several years past, I have used the common hive and Weeks' patent, and the greatest difficulty I have had in my bee management is, their not swarming in season, or not swarming at all. I have had them frequently hang out on the hive from three to six weeks, in sufficient numbers to have made a good swarm, and not swarm at all through the whole season. I have had no trouble with my bees going off when swarming.

Last season, I concluded to take off swarms as soon as they began to hang out, and see if they would not go on and do as well as if they had remained and come off when they were ready. I tried several swarms in that way, and found no difficulty with them: they went on and filled their hives, and the old swarms continued to work well. I have never found but one inconvenience in managing them in that way, and that was, they were more cross than when left to swarm when they were ready. I believe that bees may be multiplied much faster by taking off swarms when using the swarming hive, than to let them remain and swarm of their own accord. The month of June, and a part of July, is the time that bees lay in the most of their honey. Swarms that come off after the middle of July, seldom lay in sufficient to carry them through the winter. By using Jones's hive, or taking off swarms the last of May and through the month of June, there will be a great saving of bees the following winter. In dividing Jones's hive, there is no difficulty: the bees are not much disturbed. R. HARMON, Jr.

PROTECTION AGAINST DROUGHT.

The best protection against drought that can be practiced to a great extent with advantage, is stirring the earth frequently to keep it light, loose, and mellow. We have made experiments and observations on this subject, and have observed the good effects of stirring the soil in a dry time, in a most striking manner. When land that had not been plowed nor stirred in any way, was dry down ten inches, and hardly any moisture even at that depth, land by the side of it, plowed and frequently hoed, was moist within a few inches of the top in a very severe drought.

In time of a drought last summer, we observed that a number of farmers believing in these principles, were acting on them, as they thought, but were making a wrong application of their labors. They plowed between the rows of their corn and potatoes, and then drew the earth around the plants making high hills. The consequence was, that the roots of the plants would become exposed between the rows, to the hot sun. In such cases, we took the hoe and dug up and pulverized the soil over the whole surface, leaving it level, giving a specimen of the course we had pursued with marked success, and though the system was acknowledged to be reasonable, yet some of them could not be induced to leave the old method which they had long pursued, and so they went on losing their labors, or rather employing their labor to the injury of their crops, so far as drought was concerned.—*Bost. Cult.*

Bots in Horses.—Passing, not long since, through one of the principal manufacturing villages in the interior of Cumberland county, my attention was arrested by a large concourse of persons who had gathered around a building to see a poor horse die of the *bots!* A very amusing circumstance, surely, but one of such common occurrence, that to me, at least, it has ceased to be a matter of curiosity or surprise. I forward you the following recipe, in the hope that it may prove a benefit to many:—To make the bots let go their hold, give the patient a quart of molasses, or dissolved sugar, with a quart of sweet milk. In 30 minutes you will find him at ease. Then pulverize an eighth of a pound of alum; dissolve in a quart of warm water, and give as a drench. In two hours or less, administer 1 lb. salts, and you will effect a cure. I have never known this remedy fail.—*Maine Cult.*

A good book and a good woman are excellent things to those who know how to justly appreciate their value; but there are many who judge of both only by their covering.

Neglected Agricultural Products.—The last annual report of Mr Ellsworth, Commissioner of Patents, recommends a variety of neglected agricultural products to the attention of farmers. The first of these productions mentioned, is the *symphytum officinale*, or prickly comfrey. "If all that has been written of this plant be true," remarks Mr E., "it would seem to deserve attention, as likely to prove a valuable acquisition to our farmers." Cattle of every kind are said to be fond of it. An acre of it, with proper care, may be made to produce 30 tons of green foliage in a year. The growth is so rapid as to afford two cuttings in one year. The *root* (good for food,) it is stated, should be harvested but once in two years, and will yield 2,400 bushels per acre. The root is greedily devoured by cattle.

The Jerusalem Artichoke is also recommended as food for cattle. It is very much prized in Europe, where it yields more than 2000 bushels of roots per acre. The leaves and stalks cut up when green, with other fodder, are much relished by the cattle, and form a very nutritive food for milch cows.

To Kill Alders.—A correspondent asks us the best mode of killing alders. We never succeeded very well in killing them by cutting at any particular time of the year. They grow, generally, in "*clumps*," that is, there are a great many trunks started from one root. The most thorough mode of extirpating them is the following.

Have a large strong iron hook, made with an eye sufficiently large to run through it a strong draft chain. Put a yoke of oxen on to the chain, and place the hook around the clump, with the point settled into the ground a little under the root. Let one person take hold of the tops of the bushes and bend them over the hook, while another starts the oxen along, and thus *twitch* them up by main strength. In this way, we once cleared several acres of thick alder growth, and they never started again.—*Maine Far.*

Posts.—If you have occasion to set a post, never upon any consideration, be induced to *case* it. The durability of timber depends exclusively either upon the free, unrestricted circulation of the air, or upon its entire exclusion. It is frequently the case that in order to induce a more tasty appearance, the posts of our front yard and other fences in immediate contiguity with the house, are cased; a practice which results in the unavoidable deterioration of the posts, unless, indeed, the operation be remarkably well performed, and the exterior carefully protected by the application of paint or an impervious wash, capable of resisting the action of the atmosphere, and of wholly excluding wet. In this way, *thoroughly seasoned* posts will endure a long time, while those partially dry, or wholly green, will be destroyed by the action of the confined air, and which the casing prevents from escaping, in a shorter time than if they were openly exposed.—*Maine Cult.*

Worms on Cabbage.—These pests of the garden may be destroyed by taking off one of the large lower leaves of the cabbage, about sundown, and laying it on the top of the plant, backside down. Take it off early in the morning, and the whole or a large part of the worms of that cabbage will be on it, and may be destroyed at pleasure. So says W. Chandler, in the Tenn. Agriculturist.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES.

CLOSE PLANTING OF CORN.

Mr Breck—In the N. E. Farmer, of the 12th inst., is published a communication by Mr Allen, of Pembroke, containing some strictures upon a communication of mine, published in the N. E. Farmer, of May 1st, on the close planting of corn.

Mr Allen says, "we should be very careful to enumerate all the probable causes which were combined in producing the result. This we think L. B. has not satisfactorily done."

When I wrote the article, I weighed the subject in my own mind well, and came to the conclusion that there was *but one cause* that produced the result, viz: the "close planting." And after reading Mr A.'s remarks, and with the very highest respect for his knowledge as a farmer, and zeal in the cause of agriculture, I see no reason to alter my opinion. The reasons upon which that opinion was founded, I will now give; and the readers of your paper can judge whether those reasons were sufficient to form an opinion from.

Mr A. says: "L. B. should have taken another piece of land of similar soil with that on which the first crop was raised, to have made a fair comparative experiment between his own manner of planting and that of Mr Phelps, to which he refers." Now it so happened in 1842, that I had an acre and a half of land of similar soil, lying side by side, and only separated by a road three rods wide, planted about the same time, and at the same distance; but it had but 20 loads of manure per acre, while the other had at the rate of 40 loads per acre. The crop of corn upon the large piece was not more than half as large as upon the small piece.

In the spring of 1843, both pieces were manured alike, at the rate of 20 cartloads of stable, and 20 loads of compost manure per acre, and planted with the same kind of corn. The smaller piece was planted 2 feet by 2, three kernels in a hill; the larger piece was planted 3 feet by 2, three kernels in a hill; the hoeing and management through the season the same. The crop upon the large piece was more than 50 per cent. better, and that upon the close-planted piece more than 50 per cent. poorer than the previous year.

I think the experiment was such as to warrant me in the assertion, that I could conceive of no other reason but the close planting, for the difference in the yield of the two years, on the small piece. In respect to the quality of the soil, and preparation of the field, I would observe that Mr Phinney, of Lexington, saw the crop on the 25th of August, 1842, and he thought it would yield at the rate of 80 bushels per acre, and observed that it was superior to any on his farm.

Mr. A. says—"Suppose he had planted precisely in the manner of the preceding year: would his harvest have been as large? Certainly not, even if he had manured somewhat more liberally." I am no advocate for planting the same land to corn year after year, but I cannot yet believe that any land well manured, can be so impoverished by one crop of corn, as not to produce as good or better the second year, if "*manured somewhat more liberally*" than the previous year; for repeated experiments of my own contradict this *theory* in toto.

I did not intend to censure Mr Phelps' method, where the soil is so fertile as to produce 122 bushels of corn per acre, without manure of any kind, but I have never been so fortunate as to see *a hundred bushels* per acre, with the highest manuring and cultivation, on the best of land, in this section of the country. Nor have I ever seen corn planted "with the rows so wide apart that a New York wagon might be driven through without touching on either side"—and if any farmer shall so plant his corn from my "suggestion that close planting is wrong," I shall be very sorry indeed, and will most heartily join with Mr Allen to censure such a course.

LEVI BARTLETT.

Warner, N. H., June 22d, 1844.

☞Whatever difference of opinion may exist between our friends Allen and Bartlett on minor points, we hope they will always "pull together" in all matters essentially connected with, and conducive to, agricultural improvement, as they compose "a strong team."

It is of little consequence, we think, what *processes* may be employed in the culture of the earth, if they produce a satisfactory *result*,—and this is the "end and aim" of all farmers, and we might add, of every body else.

In regard to one point alluded to by our valued correspondent in the preceding communication, (i. e. the cultivation of corn on the same ground two or more years successively,) we wish to express a conviction which we have long entertained—and that is, that good crops of corn—as good or better than the first—may be raised on the same land, year after year, if the land be liberally manured. The opposite belief, if we recollect aright, had its origin mainly in the theory of De Candolle, that the first crop left an excrementitious matter or matters, poisonous to a crop of the same kind, if grown on the same land the year next succeeding—and that, maugre manuring, such crop (corn was particularly specified,) would be diminished, compared with the preceding. Has experience demonstrated the correctness of this theory? We think not. We never yet asked a farmer—Have you found any deterioration in your corn crops obtained from the same land two or more years successively, when you have manured well?—who did not answer us with an emphatic "*No.*"

Let us not be understood to oppose the doctrine of rotation of crops—this rests on a firmer basis than the mere presumption that the ground that has produced a crop one year, is thereby rendered unfit, by poisonous excrements left by that crop, for being planted with the same product the next year. The rotation of crops is manifestly a judicious measure, calculated alike to keep up the fertility of land and the sum of its products, and is one of the distinguishing characteristics of improved husbandry on both sides of the Atlantic.

Cheap Cottages.—In my last report, an account was given of a mode of constructing cheap cottages of unburnt brick. The numerous experiments of a similar kind since attempted in the United States, and the satisfaction experienced, together with further inquiries on this subject, lead me to offer some further remarks on the subject. From the accounts of the use of such bricks in Egypt, it is proved that they have been found undecayed in arches which have stood the lapse of 2000 years. The cottage erected by myself on Massachusetts Avenue, in full sight of the capitol, and which is two stories in height, stands well, and appears as handsome as the best brick houses; and being warm in winter and cool in summer, justifies me in recommending a similar mode of building, especially where clay is abundant and timber scarce.—*Mr Ellsworth's Report.*

DESTRUCTIVE INSECTS ON PEACH TREES AND GRAPE-VINES AT NANTUCKET.

While on our late visit at Nantucket, we were invited to look in upon a number of the principal gardens in the place, which invitations we gladly accepted. On account of the absence of all trees on the island to shelter the gardens from exposure to severe winds and the influence of the spray from the ocean, gardening cannot be pursued with that success as with us; but notwithstanding the many obstacles to be encountered, we were pleased to see some successful attempts in the cultivation of fruits and flowers. The fruit trees, unless under glass, do not flourish very well, even in the most protected gardens.

Aaron Mitchell, Esq. has an extensive grapery and peach-house, in which we noticed a large crop of grapes in progress, in fine condition, without artificial heat. In his peach-house, his prospect for a crop was not quite so flattering. It presented a scene of desolation truly painful: not only had he lost his whole crop of peaches, but the trees were completely defoilated, and to all appearances gone beyond recovery. It appeared that the cause of this destruction was a species of a scaly insect adhering to the bark: it was also noticed on many of the grape-vines in the same house with the peach trees. Not having seen any thing exactly like it, we took a few twigs covered with these disgusting insects, in a bottle, for the inspection of Dr. Harris, who has obligingly sent us the following communication. Mr Mitchell had tried various remedies—whale-oil soap, sulphur, and lime-water—without success: he had also recourse to the tedious process of scraping the scales off, but the task was too great; the insects have such a wonderful prolific quality, and so thickly infested the trees, that they obtained the victory, and he had given up many of the trees for lost:—

Cambridge, June 24, 1844.

Mr Joseph Breck—Dear Sir—There are many kinds of scale-insects and bark-lice, which are injurious to plants. They fasten upon the bark and leaves, and suck out the sap, by means of their short beaks, which are concealed under the fore part of their bodies. The scientific name for such insects is *Coccus*. The species, found by you upon the peach-trees at Nantucket, resembles, in many respects, a large *coccus* that often infests the grape vine, the creeper, and the lime tree; but, in the specimens which you sent to me, I do not perceive any of the white downy substance, wherewith the *coccus* of the vine and of the lime-tree protect their eggs; and the body of your insect is covered with a white powder like that found on the mealy bug of green-houses. An insect resembling the latter, has become very destructive to the orange trees in St. Michaels, and in East Florida. These creatures are always more injurious in hot and dry weather, such as we have lately had, than at any other times, because they exhaust plants when they are least able to spare any of their juices.

Most kinds of scale-insects and bark-lice may be killed by brushing plants infested with them, and by washing them with a mixture of two parts, by measure, of soft soap with eight of water, and lime enough to bring the liquid to the consistence of thick white-wash. Two pounds of potash dissolved in seven quarts of water, may be used instead of the soap and water.

Being much pressed for time, allow me to refer your friend, A. M., to a "Treatise on Insects inju-

rious to Vegetation," for the natural history of bark-lice. Yours, respectfully,

T. WM. HARRIS.

GUANO.

☞A friend has shown us seven samples of guano, from as many different cargoes, which were sent him from London—(not the cargoes, but the samples)—with an analysis of each lot, and the prices at which the cargoes sold.

One lot was from Peru, one from Chili, and the others from different locations on the coast of Africa. These several lots varied in value from 10 to 50 per cent. The best was that from Peru, and sold from 12 to £15 sterling per ton. The best African sold from £10 to £10 10s., and the most inferior from £5 to £7 10s. per ton.

After a person has become acquainted with the article, he will not be greatly deceived in its value: the appearance and odor will be something of a guide; but to come at the correct worth of any cargo, it should be submitted to the test of an analysis.

We understand there has been an arrival at this port of about 70 tons from the coast of Africa, of good quality. We have not yet seen a sample of it.

Upon our remark in the article on Guano, some weeks since, that "Mr Teschemacher was *one of the first* in this country to experiment with guano," the *American Farmer* has the following note:—

"This is a mistake: it was introduced into this State (Maryland) 15 or 20 years ago, by the Hon. J. S. Skinner, and successfully experimented with."

We freely state the fact communicated in the above, of which we were not previously aware—but we cannot see our "mistake." We said Mr T. was *one* of the first, &c. Was this a "mistake"?

In a subsequent number of the same paper, we find the following remarks in reference to Mr Skinner's importation:—

"Our country is indebted to the ever watchful vigilance of the founder of the *American Farmer*, [J. S. Skinner, Esq.,] for the *first* guano ever introduced into the United States; and it is but paying him a feeble compliment to say, that had his enterprise been backed by the farmers of that day, in the generous spirit which it deserved—had they created a *demand* for this life-giving manure, and liberal importations followed, a new face would have been conferred upon American husbandry; for there is no question in our mind, that, for all the berry-bearing families of vegetables, as well as for the grass crops generally, *there is no manure superior to guano*,—its very constituent elements would prove this, if *experience*—the safest and most trustful of all schools—did not stand forth, in bold relief, to verify our affirmation.

Among the advantages resulting from the introduction of guano as one of the reliable improvers of soil, would be the *economy* it would effect of labor, time and expense in transportation. A man of ordinary bodily strength, would be able to place a bag of it on his shoulder, march with it to the field, and manure an acre of ground in less than a day—and it is but fair and reasonable to conclude, that the saving which would thus be effected, in the expense of transportation and spreading alone, would more than compensate for the price of guano, with these differences in favor of the latter—a much more cleanly culture, and the saving of much valuable time at a period when labor is in great demand, for the urgent necessities of the farm."

COMPOST MAKING.

The leisure time which the farmer has in summer, cannot be more profitably employed than in gathering materials for, and making compost. Let large drafts be made upon the muck-bed, the surface earth of woodlands, the swamp, bottoms and sides of ponds, and the road-side;—gather all useless vegetation, weeds, brakes, &c.;—keep the hogs well supplied with the "raw material," and your investments of this kind in their manufacturing establishment, will bring you in as good a profit as the most sagacious capitalist derives from his investments in other sources of gain.

It has been contended that the employment of men at a dollar per day, during the summer months, in getting materials for compost, would be a profitable expenditure of money by any farmer; and we cannot dispute it.

The more means a man has to do with, in any pursuit, (we mean a *wise* man,) the greater is his thrift—uncommon contingencies aside;—and how emphatically true is this in the case of the farmer. Only give him a plenty of means in the shape of manure, and he can get, ordinarily, as much as he wants from the earth,—for, when liberally treated, she yields liberally—but you *can't cheat her*;—you can't give her little and expect much.

Ho! then, farmers, for the peat meadow, and dig into its deposites with an animation and a spirit, such as you would be likely to exhibit were you digging in a prolific mine of gold. Let each resolve to outdo his neighbor in the making of compost:—get up an *enthusiasm* in the matter;—this, sometimes, accomplishes much;—we have seen its effects in politics, in temperance, and other matters,—let us now see it excited in compost making. He among our subscribers who shall make the most compost this year, with the least means and at the least expense, shall have all the fame which the publication of his achievement in our columns, can give—beside the more substantial benefit of increased crops and improved fields. In respect to this business of muck-digging and compost making, we would say—

Let those now dig who never dug before,
And those who 've always dug, now dig the more.

WEEDS.

War, uncompromising and constant, should be waged by every farmer against these insiduous and troublesome pests. Down with them, or up with them—if you do n't, they will exhaust your soil more than your crop,—and what is worse, if you give them the privilege of seeding, they will infest your land the second year twice as thick as they did the first. "One year's seeding makes seven years' weeding," is an adage which many a farmer has found true to his cost. But if attacked in season, and kept down at any rate, they are shorn of half their terrors.

What looks more ungainly—what is a stronger indication of a slovenly and thriftless farmer, to a traveller in the road, than to behold among the crops in the fields, huge, towering weeds, usurping the places of useful plants, thriving at the expense and exhausting the life-blood of the valuable grain, or whatever may be the crop into whose company they have intruded themselves.

No man who sets any value upon his reputation as a farmer, or who looks well to his interests, will permit weeds to encumber his ground, when, by the exercise of well-expended labor, he can get rid of their unwelcome presence.

A weed is as loathsome to us among a promising crop, as a skunk would be in our green-house. They are hateful because both useless and injurious—and the man who permits them to flourish in his cultivated grounds, without vigorous efforts to extirpate them, is not deserving the name of a good husbandman nor a good neighbor. No man has a *right* to keep a nuisance on his premises to the annoyance and injury of his neighbor—and weeds, if suffered to seed, have this effect. "War to the knife, and the knife to the hilt," is the spirit which should actuate every farmer in the treatment of weeds. It is a *christian* warfare to fight them as common enemies to mankind, and show them no quarter. Though it costs considerable to keep them down, it costs *more* to let them grow.

CULTIVATION OF FLOWERS.

There are a class of men who would pare down every thing to the mere grade of *utility*,—who think it the height of wisdom to ask, when one manifests an enthusiasm in the culture of flowers, "*Of what use are they?*" With such we have no sympathy. We will not say, with Mr Colman, in case of such an interrogatory being put to us, that "our first impulse is *to look under his hat and see the length of his ears*," but we are always inclined, in such cases, to thank God that our tastes do not correspond with theirs. Better—(say these ultra utilitarians)—better devote our time to the culture of things useful and needed to sustain life, than to employ it on things which, like flowers, are intended only to look at and please the eye. But why, (we would ask with Mr Colman,) "why *should not* the eye be pleased?" What pleasures more pure, more warming to the heart, more improving to the mind, more chastening to the affections, than those which come through the eye? Where shall we read more luminously displayed the perfections of the Creator, than in the star-spangled heavens above and the flower-spangled earth beneath?—

"Each cup a pulpit, and each leaf a book"

Nonsense—sheer nonsense—to tell us it is useless to cultivate flowers. They add to the charms of our homes. Rendering them more attractive and beautiful, we multiply and strengthen the domestic ties which bind us to them. We would not advocate the cultivation of flowers to the neglect of more necessary objects: attention to the one does not involve neglect of the other. Every man engaged in the culture of the earth, can find time to embellish his premises, who has the will to do it, and we pity those who have not. Rob earth of its flowers—the wondrous mechanism of the Almighty—and we should lose the choicest mementoes left to remind us that it was once a paradise.

To Make Blue-wash for Walls.—Get a pound of blue vitriol from a drug store, and have it powdered in a mortar. Provide also, two quarts of lime. Take six cents worth of glue, boil it in a quart of soft water till thoroughly dissolved. Put the powdered vitriol in a wooden bucket, and when the glue-water is cold, pour it on the vitriol, mix and stir it well. When the vitriol is dissolved in the glue-water, stir in by degrees the two quarts of lime. Try the color by dipping in a piece of white paper, and when dried, you can judge if the color is as blue as you want. If too pale, stir in a little more powdered vitriol. It is well to provide an extra quantity of each of the articles, in case a little more of one or the other should be required.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, July 3, 1844.

NANTUCKET SHEEP SHEARING.

(Continued.)

Contrary to the fears of many, the shearers were favored with fine weather for their operations, and at an early hour all hands were at work driving the sheep to the pens. We sallied forth as soon as breakfast was despatched, that we might witness all that might be interesting in the day's performance. As we reached the open common, the scenery was truly unique and picturesque. In one direction, a cluster of tents appeared in view, ornamented with American flags; at some distance to the right, the shearing pens were descried: in every direction on the plain, people in carriages of various sort, on horseback and on foot, were seen moving towards the centre of operations, or reconnoitering the tents, where refreshments were dispensed. There is one species of carriage peculiar to Nantucket, which were generally crowded with children, or whole families we might suppose were the occupants. These were what we should call horse-carts, some upon two, and others upon four wheels. The old fashion was to have them without springs, and there were many of this description: but an improvement was noticed on the greater part, in their being hung upon elliptical steel springs. These we found upon trial to be a most comfortable carriage. A few chairs are set in them for the elderly part of the family, while the younger members stand up. In one of these literal *carry-alls*, we counted *twentynine* children: while they were feasting their eyes upon the passing scenery and enjoying the pleasant motion of the carriage, they were, at the same time, gratifying the palate with oranges, candy, &c., looking as comfortable and happy as it is possible for children to look. There were also coaches, cabs and chaises, all filled to overflowing: in fact, every body seemed to be upon the move.

The music of the sheep soon attracted our attention, and some few that had broken away from the flock or had already been fleeced, were seen skipping over the common, frightened by the unusual scene, or anxiously bleating for their lambs, from whom they had been separated.

The shearing pens consist of a large circular enclosure, which is surrounded by small pens with gates communicating from the interior to the outside of the circle On the outside, sails are spread upon the grass, and a canopy of sails or of boards, is erected to protect the shearers from the sun. The centre within the small pens is divided into three circular pens, one within the other, and the inner circle of all is divided again into three parts,—all these different compartments communicating with each other by numerous gates.

The sheep are driven into the first circular space, which they completely fill, so that they have but little chance to jump about: the gate is then closed upon them. Now comes a lively part of the ceremonies. The sheep are to be separated and distributed among their respective owners, and this is no small task, when it is considered that there are as many as 60 or 70 proprietors. The men and boys, to the number of some hundreds, commence the work of picking out of the flock the sheep owned by their employers, which are distinguished by a peculiar mark.

The proprietor appropriates to his own use as many of the small outer pens as will be necessary to accommodate his flock, and stands by them to keep tally and open the gate for the sheep as they are recognized and brought to him. The boys appeared to enjoy it very much, as well as the older ones.

After the flock had been somewhat thinned out, and the sheep became more difficult to catch, they were driven into the second circle, in more confined quarters, where the work of separating and distributing was still continned, until it was found necessary to drive them into the inner pens, and here this part of the work was soon accomplished.

As disputes might arise relative to the ownership of the sheep, and from other sources, that "all things might be done decently and in order," one gentleman with five assistants is chosen to direct the movements of the day, and to decide upon any matter in dispute, which might unluckily happen; but we saw no occasion for their interference, as every thing went on like clock-work.

Shearing had now commenced in good earnest, and we took a stroll around the outside of the pens, from tent to tent, and found all busily engaged in fleecing their flocks. We were informed that fifty sheep were considered a good day's work: it was told us that one hundred sheep had been sheared by an expert shearer in one day. The price paid per head is 4 cents. Among so many hands and in so large a flock of sheep, and under circumstances so exciting, it is not much to be wondered at that some of the poor animals should be roughly handled. We thought there was not much tenderness manifest in some of the men, by their treatment of the sheep, in throwing them violently from one pen to another. We saw a number with their horns broken off, bleeding profusely, and some otherwise damaged; not a few severely wounded with the shears, which by mistake took the flesh instead of the fleece; but as we were told "mutton flesh heals quick," and as the sheep are no doubt used to it, perhaps it is no great matter.

The milch ewes are first sheared, that they may be turned to their lambs, who appeared to be very impatiently waiting for their dams, in a pasture near by, and a more clamorous set of young animals we never before heard.

The fleeces are rolled up and packed in the carts, or piled up in heaps as they are taken off: we were rather surprised to find them so light;—we were credibly informed that the whole flock would not average more than 2 1-4 to 2 1-2 lbs. to the fleece. The wool is not of the best quality. The clip of last year was sold at 19 and 20 cents per lb., but this year sales were made before we left, at 30 cts. per lb. and upwards. Some dealers on the ground complained that Nantucket wool was not washed so clean as it should be. This may be attributed to carelessness in part, but principally on account of the sheep being washed in a pond instead of a running stream.

Formerly, a sheep shearing, like a country muster, was synonymous with great rioting; but the temperance reform has produced a happy change in this as well as in other places, and we were pleased to see every thing conducted with the greatest propriety. During our two days' stay on the island, there was a grand temperance fair in progress, thronged with old and young, in their holiday attire. All business appeared to stand still, and riding and visiting seemed to be the order of the day.

The same course was pursued the second day at the shearing pens as on the first. The flock was not so large, and of course sooner dispatched. The carriages seemed to be filled with those more advanced in life than the preceding day. Every horse on the island was in requisition, and among them we noticed many fine animals.

We returned home highly pleased with our visit, but have been thinking it would not be be a bad plan to form a society for ameliorating the condition of the poor sheep on the island of Nantucket!

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS

Saturday, June 29, 1844.

From Samuel Walker, 150 double Ranunculuses, many of them very splendid. There has never been an exhibition of the kind, probably, in New England, or in the country. Mr W. also exhibited a dozen fine double Pinks: also, Carnations, bouquets, and numerous cut flowers, peculiar to the season—some of the most conspicuous were Delphinium Barlowii, a fine specimen, and a new variety of Lythrum

From S. R. Johnson, Bourbon and Noisette Roses, in great profusion; Lilies, Delphiniums, and other cut flowers.

From J. Breck & Co., Carnations, Dahlias, Lilies, Roses, and a great variety of cut flowers. Those most admired were a Seedling Delphinium, double fine blue, from the variety Grandiflora; Delphinium Barlowii and Catananche cærulea.

Bouquets from Samuel A. Walker, Miss Sumner, J. Hovey, and Messrs. Hovey.

From Messrs. Winship, Lilies, and other cut flowers and bouquets.

From Wm. Kenrick, Roses, Pæonies, Verbenas of sorts, numerous varieties of cut flowers, neatly arranged by Miss Russell, in a basket, and bouquets—among them a beautiful variegated leaved Plum, (Prunus Padua variegata.)

From J. L. L. F. Warren, Roses, Verbenas, Picotee Pinks, Pansies, Dahlias, cut flowers of sorts, and bouquets.

From Wm. E. Carter, Campanula grandiflora, Phlox picta (very beautiful,) Pentstemon arquata, Mandevillea suaveolons, Rhododendrons, bouquets, &c.

From Eliakim Morse, Medfield, a large bunch of Rhododendron maximum, taken from a swamp in that place.

For the Committee, J. Breck, *Chm'n.*

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

The exhibition today was very fine, particularly in Strawberries and Cherries. Of the former, those from Capt. Lovett were the finest of the season.

Mr John F. Allen exhibited the Ferrol and Black Hamburg Grapes, both very fine. Early Crawford and Royal George Peaches, the former of delicious flavor; also, beautiful Elruge and Golden Nectarines, and black St. Michael Figs.

From Capt. Josiah Lovett, 2d, Early Virginia, Aberdeen and Hovey's Seedling Strawberries, the latter very superior.

From Sam'l Barnard, Black Tartarian Cherries, fine.

From Parker Barnes, fine Bigarreau Cherries.

From J. & F. Winship, Cherries—Ox Heart, fine; Belle Magnifique, Black Eagle, Bigarreau, Early White Heart, Carnation, and 10 var. of Seedlings.

From Otis Johnson, Cherries—Bigarreau, Honey Heart, Black Tartarian and Bigarreau Gros Courret.

From Geo. Walsh, Belle de Choisy, Savoy, Bigarreau? Cherries, fine.

From Mr McLellan, Strawberries—Prince Albert and Hautboy Seedling, the latter of very high and *superior* flavor.

From Wm. P. Jenny, Seedling Strawberries, handsome and of fine flavor.

From Mrs Howard, by Mr Nugent, Grapes—Black Hamburg, Chasselas (fine,) and Miller's Burgundy. Cherries—Ox Heart and Napoleon Bigarreau, very fine.

From Mrs. Bigelow, Carnation Cherries.

From S. Downer, Downer's late Red Cherries.

From John A. Kenrick, Cherries—Bigarreau, Ox Heart, and Black Tartarian.

From K. Bailey, Raspberries.

For the Committee, Otis Johnson.

Vegetables.—Two long Cucumbers, very fine, were exhibited by Mr James Arnold, of New Bedford.

Currant Wine.—Take water, 30 galls.; honey, 2 do.; red currants (bruised) 10 lbs.; sugar, 15 lbs.; red tartar, 2 oz. Mix, and allow it to ferment, then rack it into a clean cask. If it does not appear disposed to ferment, add a little yeast.—*U. S. Receipt Book.*

NOTICE.

MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

A Stated Meeting of the Society will be holden on the First SATURDAY in July, (6th inst) at 11 o'clock, A. M.
EBENEZER WIGHT, *Rec. Sec.*

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Gardenof the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass in a shaded Northerly exposure. to the week ending June 30.

June, 1844.		7 A M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	24	60	82	79	N. W.
Tuesday,	25	71	89	80	S. W.
Wednesday,	26	72	89	84	E.
Thursday,	27	74	80	64	E
Friday,	28	72	91	80	S. E.
Saturday,	29	61	71	69	N. W.
Sunday,	30	60	77	65	S. E.

BRIGHTON MARKET —Monday, July 1, 1844.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At market 490 Beef Cattle, 10 pairs Working Oxen, 2200 Sheep and 370 Swine. 60 beef cattle unsold.

Prices — *Beef Cattle.*—We again reduce our quotations, viz: Extra, $5. First quality, $4,75. Second quality $4,25 a 4,50. Third quality, $4 a 4,25.

A small number of beef cattle to be driven fifty miles before weighing, brought something more than our highest quotation.

Working Oxen —No sales noticed.

Sheep.—Sales from $1,25 to 3,00.

Swine.—Lots to peddle, 4 1-4 for sows and 5 1-4 for barrows. Small pigs, 6c. At retail, from 5 to 6 1-2.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, (nominal) per bushel. Red Top 00 to 00 cents. Clover—Northern, 0 to 00c.—Southern, 0 a 0 c. Flax Seed. $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $3 00 per bushel.

GRAIN. The arrivals of Corn during the week having been quite large, with a diminished demand, has caused prices to decline a little, and for several parcels afloat, our lowest quotations are only offered.

Corn—Northern. new, bushel 00 to 00—Southern, round yellow, old, 00 a 00—Southern flat yellow, new, 50 a 52—do. do. white 48 a 49—do New Orleans, 00 a 00—Barley 00 a 00 —Rye, Northern, 65 a 70—do. Southern, 60 a 63 —Oats, Southern, 30 a 31—Northern do. 34 to 00—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. 23 a 25—Bran, 17 a 20.

FLOUR. The arrivals of late have been large, and the market is literally flooded with inferior descriptions of Genessee, Michigan, and Ohio, and being sold at very low rates, exerts an unfavorable influence on the market for the better qualities of Flour.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $4 50 a 0 00—do. wharf, $4 37 a 0 00—do. free of garlic, $4 50 a 0 00—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $4 37 a 0 00 —Fredericksburg, low P'd 4 mos. $4 37 a 0 00—Alexandria. wharf mountain, 0 00 a 0 00. —Georgetown, $4 75 a 5 00—Richmond Canal, $4 37 a 0 00 —do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, South side $0 00 a 0 00 —do. Country $4 37 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $4 50 a 4 75— do fancy brands $4 62 a 4 75 — Ohio, via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $0 00 a 0 00. Rye, $3 37 a 0 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 62 a 0 00.

PROVISIONS. For the best qualities of Pork the market has assumed a little more firmness, but the inferior descriptions are selling at low prices.

Beef—Mess 4 new bbl. $6 75 a 7 25—Navy—$6 00 a 6 25.—No. 1, $5 50 a 5 75—do Prime $4 00 a 4 25—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo bbl. $00 00 a 00 00—do Clear $10 00 a 11 00 do. Mess, $8 00 a 8 50—do Prime $6 00 a 6 25—do Mess from other States.— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00 —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00— Butter, shipping, 15 a 18—do store, uninspected, 10 a 12—do dairy, 18 cts. a 20—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 00 a 0 —do South and Western, 5¼ a 6¼— Hams, Boston, 0 a 00 — Southern and Western, 5 a 6—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 3 a 4½ —do new milk, 4½ a 5½.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts per pound.

But little of the new clip of fleece Wool has yet come to market, and the sales have consequently been limited.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 45 a 50 c.--American full blood, do 43 a 45--Do. 3-4 do 37 a 40—Do. 1-2 do 35 a 37--1-4 and common do 30 a 33 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 25-- Do. unwashed, 10 a 17 — Bengasi do 6 a13--Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10— do. do. picked, 10 a 15—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 42 a 45—No. 1 do. do. do. 37 a 40—No. 2 do do do 25 a 33— No. 3 do do do 18 a 20.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

No great demand, and few in the hands of dealers, stock being reduced to about 200 bales.

1st sort Mass 1843, lb. 8 a 10 ; 2d do 0 a 0.

HAY, 14 to 16 per ton—Eastern Screwed $9 to 10.

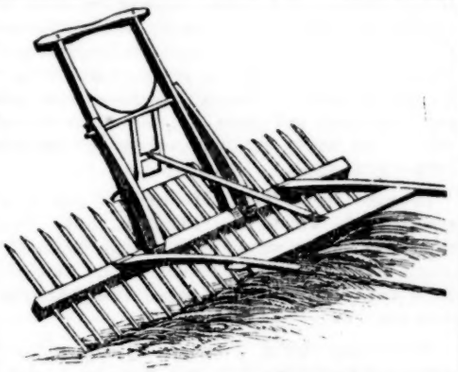
EGGS. 12.

SCYTHES, &C.

SCYTHES, RIFLES, and SNAITHS, of the most approved kinds, for sale low, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

VALUABLE FARM IN WATERTOWN.

For Sale, a large and valuable Farm. adjoining the Spring Estate, in Watertown, containing about 75 acres of tillage Land, with a pretty Cottage, of brick, containing nine rooms ; also, a large Barn, and other out-houses for stowing hay, grain, &c. This Farm is delightfully situated on the old County Road, and commands one of the finest prospects in the neighborhood of Boston ; well supplied with Apple, Pear and Peach Trees, and is a most excellent Hay Farm. From its uncommon fine situation, its great capabilities of improvement, its vicinity to Boston, being within 15 minutes' walk of two Rail Road Depots, and its very healthful location, renders it eminently calculated for a gentleman's residence. Should the whole estate be too large, a portion of the land would be sold, with the House and Barn, to suit the purchaser ; or if the whole Farm were bought, the greater part of the purchase money might remain on mortgage for a term of years. Possession given soon if desired. For further information, apply to C. EDDY, Esq. 22 State street, over Globe Bank, or at 96 Pinckney street, corner West Cedar street, Boston. July 2.



REVOLVING HORSE RAKE.

The Revolving Rake, which has been in general use in most parts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, is found to be one of the most useful and labor saving machines now in use. One man and horse, with a boy to lead, will rake on an average from 25 to 30 acres per day, with ease, and do the work well. They are coming into very general use in all parts of the country, and will, no doubt, in a few years, supersede the use of the common hand rake. There is a great advantage in this rake over all others, as the person using it does not have to stop the horse to unload the rake.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store JOSEPH BRECK & CO.
June 4.

GRAIN CRADLES.

The Grain Cradle is an article which is coming into very general use in the New England States where they were till of late but little known, although they have been in very general use in the southern and western States, for many years, and which is found to be decidedly the best mode of harvesting grain, as it is supposed one man will cradle five acres in a day when he cannot reap more than one. The difference in gathering a crop is so much in favor of cradling, that we must suppose that it will be the only mode adopted hereafter, and the grain cradle will become of as much use,as an implement of husbandry,as the plow now is.

There has been a very great improvement in the manufacturing of this article, they are now made on the most improved plan ; the scythe is well secured and finished in a superior manner and made of the best cast steel.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store. JOSEPH BRECK & CO,
June 4.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

NEW ENGLAND
Agricultural Warehouse
AND
SEED STORE.

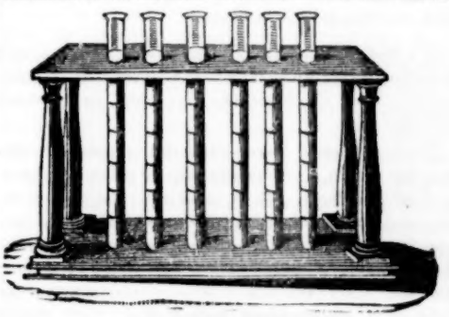
51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. having received a full and general assortment of FIELD, GRASS, GARDEN and FLOWER SEEDS, worthy of cultivation, confidently recommend them as being pure and of the first qualities, unmixed with other varieties; they have no hesitation in saying that their collection of Seeds is the best, and of the greatest variety ever offered for sale at any establishment in the U. States.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS of all kinds, constantly on hand.

AGRICULTURAL AND GARDEN IMPLEMENTS of all kinds, among which are the following, viz :—1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs, 200 Common do. do, 200 Cultivators, 100 Greene's Straw Cutters, 50 Willis' do. do. 100 Common do. do, 100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers, 50 Common do. do, 200 Willis' Seed Sowers, 50 do. Vegetable Cutters, 50 Common do. do., 200 Hand Corn Mills, 200 Grain Cradles, 100 Ox Yokes, 1500 Doz. Scythe Stones, 3000 do. Austin's Rifles, 100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels, 150 do. Common do. 100 do. Spades, 500 do. Grass Scythes, 300 do. Patent Snaiths, 200 do. Common do., 500 do. Hay Rakes, 200 do. Garden do., 200 do. Manure Forks, 300 do. Hay do. 500 Pair Trace Chains, 100 do, Truck do. 100 do. Draft do, 500 do. Tie up do, 50 doz Halter do, 1000 yards Fence do, 25 Grind Stones on Rollers.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,
N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.



LACTOMETERS.

A simple instrument for testing the quality of milk. For sale at the N. E. Farmer Office. JOS. BRECK & CO.

GARDENER'S KNIVES,

And other implements for garden purposes, in great variety and of superior quality. For sale at the N. E. Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52, N. Market Street, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS.

A few cases of superior Horticultural Tools, for gentlemen or ladies' use. For sale by JOS. BRECK & CO.
51 and 52 North Market Street.

GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes, hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, are found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co., No. 51 North Market street.

FINE BONE MANURE.

The subscribers have on hand, Fifty Barrels of fine pulverised Bone Manure, mixed with the marrow of the bone. It was produced from a manufactory when the bone was sawed in a wet state. It must be a very valuable article.

Also, Fifty Barrels fine Bone Dust, in a dry state, principally saw dust, and the refuse of a manufactory.
March 20, 1844. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

NITRATE OF SODA FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

BENJAMIN BANGS, No. 39 & 40, Lewis' Wharf, has for sale, a quantity of the above named article, which has been much approved of in England, and as far as used in this country has been found highly beneficial on grass land, trees and plants generally.
Boston, March 20, 1844. 3m

HOES.

The best kind in the Market. For sale by
JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PRACTICAL RECIPES.

Burnt Rhubarb in Diarrhœa.—It may be useful to know the value of burnt rhubarb in diarrhœa. It has been used with the same pleasing effects, for more than twenty years. After one or two doses, the pains quickly subside, and the bowels return to their natural state. The dose is from five to ten grains. The manner of preparing it is to burn the rhubarb powder in an iron pot, stirring it until it is blackened; then smother it in a covered jar. It loses two-thirds of its weight by the incineration. It is nearly tasteless. In no one case has it failed where given. It may be given in port wine, milk, and water.

Fly in Sheep.—Make a strong decoction from the leaves of tobacco, or from chewing tobacco, and apply with a small squirt or syringe, repeated several times during the fall months.

Gapes in Chickens—May be easily cured by giving them small crumbs of dough impregnated with a little soft-soap; once or twice is sufficient.

Cure for Bots.—Give the horse one ounce of slaked lime three times a week, mixed with his food, for two or three weeks.

To Make Corks for Bottles.—Take wax, hog's lard, and turpentine, equal quantities, or thereabouts. Melt all together, and stop your bottles with it.

To Cure Rot in Sheep.—It is the opinion of some that the rot in sheep is caused, in most instances, by *Tathy* herbage. If so, sheep should always be removed as soon as it is discovered that the disease has sprung from the above cause. Take foxglove leaves, 2 ounces; boiling water 1 quart; pour the water on the leaves, cover up, and let stand in a warm place half a day; then strain through flannel. Give of this decoction two teaspoonsful, morning and evening, to each sheep affected, for two or three days, when an interval of two or three days should be allowed, the mixture being an active poison.

To Extract the Essential Oil from any Flower.—Take any flowers you like, which stratify with common sea-salt in a clean earthen glazed pot. When thus filled to the top, cover it well and carry it to the cellar. Forty days afterwards, put a crape over a pan, and empty the whole to strain the essence from the flowers by pressure. Bottle that essence, and expose it four or five weeks to the sun, and evening dews, to purify. One single drop of that essence is enough to scent a whole quart of water.

To Prevent Murrain in Cattle.—Take equal parts of salt and slacked lime; mix and give two tablespoonsful twice a week during the prevalence of the disease.

Raspberry Syrup.—To every quart of fruit add a pound of sugar, and let it stand over night. In the morning, boil and skim it for half an hour; then strain it through a flannel bag, and pour it into bottles, which must be carefully corked and sealed. To each bottle add, if you please, a little brandy, if the weather is so warm as to endanger its keeping.

Raspberry Jam.—Take 1 pound loaf-sugar to every pound of fruit; bruise them together in your preserving-pan with a silver spoon, and let them simmer gently for an hour. When cold, put them into glass jars, and lay over them a bit of paper saturated with brandy; then tie them up so as carefully to exclude the air.

To Extract Iron Moulds.—Rub the spot with a little powdered oxalic acid, or salts of lemon and water, let it remain a few minutes and rinse in clean water.

Premium Cheese.—For a cheese of 20 pounds, a piece of rennet about two inches square, is soaked about twelve hours in one pint of water. As rennets differ very much in quality, enough should be used to coagulate the milk *sufficiently* in about forty minutes. No salt is put *into* the cheese, nor any outside during the first six or eight hours it is being prepared; but a thin coat of fine Liverpool salt is kept on the outside during the remainder of the time it remains in press. The cheeses are pressed fortyeight hours, under a weight of seven or eight cwt. Nothing more is required but to turn the cheeses once a day on the shelves.

Sausages quite Rich Enough for an Epicure.—Take 30 pounds of chopped meat, 8 ounces of fine salt, 2 1-2 ounces of pepper, 2 teacups of sage, and 1 1-2 cup of sweet marjoram, passed through a fine sieve. For the latter, thyme and summer savory can be substituted if preferred.

Tomato Catsup.—To a gallon skinned tomatoes add 4 tablespoonsful of salt, 4 do. black pepper, half s spoonful allspice, 8 red peppers, and 3 spoonfuls mustard. All these ingredients must be ground fine, and simmered slowly in sharp vinegar for three or four hours. As much vinegar is to be used as to leave half a gallon of liquor when the process is over. Strain through a wire-sieve and bottle, and seal from the air. This may be used in two weeks, but improves by age, and will keep several years.

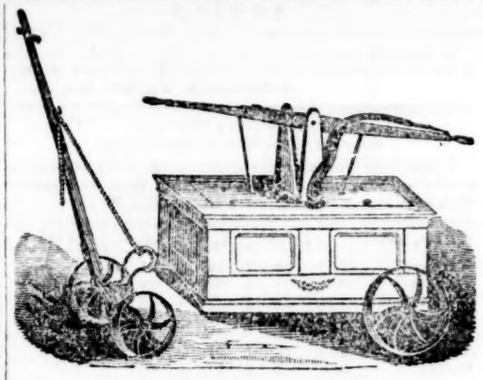
Aromatic Beer.—Take 20 drops of the oil of spruce, 20 do. wintergreen, 20 do. sassafras. Pour 2 quarts of boiling water upon the oils, then add 8 quarts of cold water, 1 1-2 pint of molasses, and 1-2 a pint of yeast. Let it stand two hours and then bottle it.

To Preserve Apples, Pears, &c.—Take apples or pears, and peel them, then cut them into eighths, observing to extract the core; dry in a kiln or oven until quite hard. In this way fruit is kept in the United States for two or three years. For use, wash the fruit in water, then pour boiling water on it, let it stand for a few minutes and use it as fresh fruit. The water forms an excellent substitute for fresh juice.

Drop Cakes.—One quart of milk, a large teaspoonful of salæratus, dissolved in a cup of cream; to which stir in flour very smoothly until a thick batter is formed Then dip your spoon in milk and with it place your batter at short distances in a buttered pan. Very delicate, made entirely of cream, either with or without eggs.

Butter—Is improved by working the second time after the lapse of twentyfour hours, when the salt is dissolved, and the watery particles can be entirely removed.

To Hasten the Blowing of Bulbous-rooted Flowers.—Nitrate of potash, 12 ounces; common salt, 4 ounces; pearlash, 3 ounces; sugar, 5 ounces; rain water, 1 quart. Dissolve, and put a spoonful of this liquid into the flower-glass, then fill it with soft water. Change the water every nine days.—*U. S. Practical Receipt Book.*



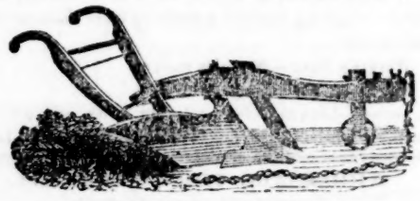
SAYLE'S GARDEN ENGINES.

A splendid article, will throw a constant stream of water to the distance of 50 to 60 feet, with great force, and in case of fire would be a substitute for a fire engine. The most perfect article for the purpose ever introduced.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52, North Market Street.

JOS. BRECK & CO.

Boston, June 4.



HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside: this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

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21 School Street.